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6. *Measures to prevent the recurrence of the floods or to mitigate their effects—Ganjam.*—The question of the formation of a flood bank for the Nagavalli is under correspondence between the Collector and the Executive Engineer. The Collector has been asked to obtain the opinion of the officers of the Public Works Department in regard to the necessity for a larger number of vents in the railway line between Dusi railway station and Kanugulavalasa village towards Chicacole road railway station.

Vizagapatam.—It seems that the podu cultivation in the hills of Madgole is the chief reason for the heavy floods in the Sarada river. The Collector is considering what steps should be taken to prevent the cutting of trees on the hill slopes. An estimate for providing more vents to the bridge on the road near Anakapalle is under consideration.

7. *General.*—The storm of the 13th-14th October was unprecedented. No such storm has been known in the Agency tracts within the memory of man. At the time of the deluge most of the tanks in the plains taluks of Vizagapatam were full owing to the rain in the latter part of September and early October and few could withstand the enormously increased supply. The fact that 45 Government tanks in Palkonda taluk were considerably affected in spite of expenditure regularly incurred upon maintenance shows that few tanks could have withstood the torrents of water poured into them. There is, however, no doubt that the unsatisfactory condition of many estate tanks to some extent contributed to the heaviness of the floods. So far as the Agency tracts are concerned, there appears to be nothing that can be done to mitigate the effects of such exceptional rainfall. The storm of the 13th-14th October although of great severity was fortunately not accompanied by wind and the weather became fine and dry after the storm had passed. The people who had been rendered homeless were thus spared further difficulties and fortunately there were no epidemics. The Government desire to record their appreciation of the good work done by officials and non-officials in relieving distress and repairing damage.

J. A. THORNE,
Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX X.

[Vide item X—Pāpers laid on the Table of the House—page 99 supra.]

A SURVEY OF THE FLOODS WHICH OCCURRED IN THE TINNEVELLY, TRICHINOPOLY, TANJORE AND SOUTH ARCOT DISTRICTS IN DECEMBER 1931.

1. *Causes and extent of the floods.*—About the end of the first week of December 1931 a storm developed some distance off the Coromandel Coast and moving towards the Peninsula caused abnormal rainfall in

some of the southern districts of the Presidency, mainly in South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Tinnevelly and between the 7th and 11th December. In the Tanjore district the rainfall continued with occasional breaks till the 28th December, the heaviest rainfall being recorded on the 23rd and 24th. There was also heavy rainfall in the South Arcot district during the last week of the month.

The maximum recorded in the Tinnevelly district was 7·87 inches on the 10th December. By 5-30 p.m. on that day the water in the Tambaraparni reached a height of 29 feet above the bed level in Tinnevelly town. There were a number of breaches in the river, the taluk that suffered worst in this respect being Srivaikuntam. Fortunately the floods began in daylight and precautions were taken to prevent any serious loss of life and destruction of movable property.

In the Tanjore district the rainfall recorded on the 24th was 9·35 inches at Tranquebar, 10·32 inches at Nannilam, 14·44 inches at Negapatam, 14·62 inches at Tiruppundi and 13·60 inches at Vedaranniyam. A number of breaches occurred in the rivers of the Vennar system. The rainfall was however confined to the delta and the uplands and the situation was fortunately not aggravated as in 1930 by rains in the basin of the Cauvery.

The area principally affected in the South Arcot district by the floods in the second week of December was Cuddalore town and the adjacent coastal area. The portion of the district to the south of the Pennar also suffered though less severely. The rains in the last week of December mainly affected Chidambaram taluk.

In the Trichinopoly district rainfall was particularly heavy in the taluks of Udaiyarpalaiyam, Kulittalai and Trichinopoly, the rainfall recorded on the 11th December 1931 being 9·44 inches at Ariyalur, 7·93 inches at Jayankundam and 7·28 inches at Manapparai. There was also incessant rainfall on the 23rd and 24th December in the Udaiyarpalaiyam taluk. The damage in the district was however comparatively slight.

2. (*a*) *Loss of life.*—Fourteen lives were lost in Tinnevelly. A ferry-boat plying across the Vaippar at Vilattikulam in Koilpatti taluk overturned and was carried away by the flood. Ten out of 23 passengers in the boat lost their lives. The collapse of a house in Srivaikuntam taluk accounts for one death. A beggar jumped into the water from a mantapam near the Tambaraparni and was carried away by the flood. Two corpses were washed ashore at Tuticorin; they could not be identified.

One life was lost in Tiruturaipundi taluk (Tanjore district).

In South Arcot and Trichinopoly no lives were lost.

(*b*) *Loss of cattle—Tinnevelly.*—About 675 cattle were lost, including 595 in Srivaikuntam taluk.

Tanjore.—The number lost was about 342.

South Arcot and Trichinopoly.—No damage to livestock has been reported.

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(c) *Damage to houses—Tinnevelly.*—Five thousand one hundred and eighty-nine families were rendered homeless in the taluks of Ambasamudram, Srivaikuntam, Tinnevelly and Tiruchendur. The number in Srivaikuntam taluk alone is 4,013. The people affected were mostly labourers.

Tanjore.—The number of houses damaged is 1,234.

South Arcot.—The number of families rendered homeless was 140.

3. *Damage to property*—(*a*) *Government property*—(i) *Irrigation works—Tinnevelly.*—The damage to Public Works Department works was considerable in Marudur Kila Kal, North Main channel and in the left bank above and below the anicut in the Srivaikuntam taluk and in the Chittar channel system in Tinnevelly taluk.

In Srivaikuntam taluk, there were 20 breaches in the left flood bank of the Tambaraparni, three of them in the villages of Srivaikuntam, Valavallan and Inam Tiruppani Chettiapathu being large ones. The Marudur Kila Kal system breached in twelve places. The bunds of the North Main channel at Eral were washed away for a length of about two miles. Breaches occurred in both the old and the new flood-banks in Kilappidagai Appankoil and water entered the village to a height of 5½ feet. Thirteen tanks in the charge of the Public Works Department breached as a result of breaches in the flood-banks of the river. Eighteen breaches occurred in the Srivaikuntam Periyakulam tank.

In Tiruchendur taluk there was a small breach in the right flood-bank of the Tambaraparni. The flood-banks in Athinathapuram and Inam Sedukkuvaithan were eroded. There were three breaches in the Athur channel.

Two tanks in the Tinnevelly taluk breached on account of the heavy rains on the 10th November. The breaches have been closed.

The total extent of damages to Public Works Department works is estimated at Rs. 2,18,000.

As many as 143 minor irrigation works under the control of the Revenue Department were effected. The cost of closing the breaches is estimated at Rs. 25,000.

Tanjore.—The damage in the Cauvery system was not serious. The amount required for closing the breaches and repairing the flood damage is estimated at Rs. 7,200.

The damage in the Vennar system (as usual in a north-east monsoon flood) was more serious. In addition to scours and overwashings, many rivers in the system breached in several places. There were 73 breaches in all in the Vennar, Vettar, Vadavar, Odambokiyar, Korayar, Pamaniyar and Pandavayar and as many as 103 breaches in the Adappar. The Vedaranniyam canal breached in six places.

In the Pattukkottai taluk, breaches occurred in the Periyakottai and Olayakunnam tanks and the bunds of two tanks were badly eroded.

The cost of closing the breaches is estimated at Rs. 86,000.

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The total number of minor irrigation works in the charge of the Revenue Department in which there were breaches is 57. The estimated cost of closing these breaches is Rs. 12,250.

South Arcot.—Breaches occurred in 12 tanks in the charge of the Public Works Department and in 41 minor irrigation tanks. There were also breaches in the Vadavar bank and the Budangudi channel in Chidambaram. The cost of repairs is estimated at Rs. 20,150.

Trichinopoly.—Two tanks and four major irrigation channels in the charge of the Public Works Department and 15 minor irrigation tanks breached. The cost of repairing the minor irrigation tanks has been estimated at Rs. 3,500.

(ii) *Other property—Tinnevelly.*—The loss on account of the collapse of compound walls, cattle-pounds and village chavadis is estimated at Rs. 500. In Tiruchendur taluk, paths under the control of Government and not vested in local boards have been badly scoured. The estimated cost of repair is Rs. 600.

Tanjore.—There was very little damage to Government property, but some roads were damaged in the Arantangi and Mayavaram taluks.

South Arcot and Trichinopoly.—No serious losses have been reported.

(*b*) *Private property*—(i) *Crops—Tinnevelly.*—An extent of 1,445 acres has been badly silted up in Srivaikuntam taluk and the cost of reclamation is estimated at Rs. 96,000. In addition, the standing crops on an extent of about 4,650 acres were damaged and ripe paddy crop was lost on account of submersion on an extent of 1,915 acres. In other taluks the damage was comparatively light. The total loss in the district on account of damage to standing crops is estimated at Rs. 1,31,000.

Tanjore.—The total extent on which the crops were spoiled is about 20,000 acres. The largest extent affected was in Tiruturaipundi taluk where the damage was extensive and serious.

The area silted up was however insignificant, being only 13 acres.

South Arcot.—Crops on about 200 acres in Chidambaram taluk were destroyed by submersion. Paddy and sugarcane were affected to some extent in Chidambaram and Cuddalore taluks, but the outturn has been fair.

Trichinopoly.—About 3,000 acres of wet land in Kulittalai, Trichinopoly and Udaiyarpalaiyam taluks were submerged, but as there was no rainfall after the 11th, water drained away quickly and no great damage was caused. The area silted up is 30·31 acres.

(ii) *Other property—Tinnevelly.*—The damage to houses is estimated at Rs. 1,90,000.

South Arcot.—Substantial houses did not suffer. A number of huts were affected.

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4. *Measures of immediate relief—Tinnevelly.*—A number of beggars were trapped in a mantapam some 70 yards from the bank of the Tambaraparni which became isolated owing to the rise of the water in the river. They were too far out for a rope to be thrown to them. There was no boat and a raft that was specially constructed could not reach them. Three men jumped into the river. Two were carried to safety and were rescued, but the third was drowned. The rest of the party spent the night on the roof of the mantapam and were rescued at 5 p.m. the next day.

Free grants of palmyras and forest minor produce for rebuilding houses were sanctioned to a number of homeless and deserving people in Srivaikuntam and Tinnevelly taluks. A sum of Rs. 269 was granted by the Collector to 68 persons, mostly women and men incapable of labour, to enable them to hire labour for rebuilding their houses. The Tahsildar of Srivaikuntam has laid out convenient plots on rising ground in Karungulam village for the people of Adithanallur village. A flood relief committee was formed at Srivaikuntam and a district flood relief fund has been opened. A variety entertainment was organized on 9th January 1932 in aid of the fund and a sum of about Rs. 850 was realized. The rebuilding of houses is proceeding rapidly.

Remission of land revenue will be granted under the rules in the Board's Standing Orders. The anticipated remission is Rs. 33,000.

Tanjore.—No measures were urgently needed. The owners of the houses which were destroyed or damaged by the floods have taken steps to reconstruct them. Loans under the Loans Acts will be given wherever necessary.

The anticipated remission of revenue is Rs. 76,694. The Government have sanctioned the following special concessions for lands on which a crop had not been harvested previously during the fasli in Tiruturaipundi taluk:—

(1) Remission of full assessment in the case of total loss of crop on a whole survey number or subdivision;

(2) remission of full assessment where the outturn is not in excess of two annas; and

(3) remission of a third of the demand where the outturn is above 2 annas and not more than 4 annas. The grant of similar concessions in Mannargudi and Nannilam taluks is under consideration.

South Arcot.—Twenty-one applications for loans for rebuilding houses were received and 10 loans covering an amount of Rs. 395 were granted up to 20th February 1932. Free grants of timber and leaves valued at Rs. 575 were made for the same purpose. The anticipated remission of revenue is Rs. 1,100.

Trichinopoly.—No measures of immediate relief were needed. The remission to be granted is estimated at Rs. 100 to Rs. 125.

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5. *Repair of irrigation works—Tinnevelly.*—The breaches in the minor irrigation tanks were closed temporarily by ring-bunds and water was stored for the standing crops. The minor irrigation staff is busy preparing estimates for repairs.

South Arcot.—Six branches in Tirukkoyilur and Cuddalore divisions and all the breaches in Chidambaram division except in the Vadavar were closed by the Government. The breaches in the Vadavar were closed by kudimaramat. Several breaches were also closed permanently or temporarily by private agency.

Trichinopoly.—Steps were taken to preserve water for the irrigation of standing crops by forming ring-bunds and closing breaches wherever possible.

The repairs to the irrigation works in the charge of both the Revenue and the Public Works Department will be carried out as early as possible.

6. *Restoration of communications—Tinnevelly.*—The portions of the roads in the municipalities of Palamcottah and Tinnevelly which were damaged have been temporarily repaired and restored for traffic. The District Board has sanctioned a sum of about Rs. 50,000 towards road repair works. The Local Fund Department is making rapid progress in the repair of roads in all parts of the district. The question of making a grant to the District Board for the repair of roads and bridges is under consideration.

Tanjore.—The Collector has addressed the District Board, Tanjore, and the Taluk Board, Mayavaram, in the matter of the rapid execution of necessary repairs.

General.—On the whole the flood damage in Tinnevelly was not widespread but intensive in a few villages. The district is subject to periodical floods in the Tambaraparni river. Loss of household property was mostly confined to villages situated within flood banks or in low-lying places, and the Collector is discouraging the re-occupation of such sites. The Public Works Department proposes to investigate the possibility of improving the mouth of the Tambaraparni into the sea and making it more efficient.

In Tanjore the floods were almost entirely due to local rainfall and were much less extensive than in 1930. A study of the statistics of rainfall at the various stations in the district is being made, with a view to considering to what extent the flood-banks in the Vennar system have to be further strengthened and raised.

Various measures have been taken in the past to mitigate the effects of the Gadilam floods in the South Arcot district and it is due to these measures that the floods resulting from the unprecedented rainfall of $20\frac{1}{2}$ inches in 25 hours occasioned no loss of life and only slight damage to property. Only two areas were seriously submerged—(1) a group of villages including Sarvorajanpettai and Naduthittu and (2) the area round the village of Killai both in Chidambaram taluk. The latter is

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a low-lying flat area close to the coast and there seems to be no practicable remedy to prevent its being submerged in case of a heavy rainfall. The submersion of the former area was due partly to the failure of the ryots to repair the flood-bank of the Vellagal odai and partly to the obstruction of the course of the odai by the inadequate ventways in a local board bridge on the Edayur road. The questions of repairing the flood-bank and improving the bridge are engaging the attention of the Collector.

The Government desire to record their appreciation of the good work done by officials and non-officials in relieving distress and repairing damage.

J. A. THORNE,
Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX XI.

[Vide item X—Papers laid on the Table of the House—page 99 supra.]

PUBLIC (GENERAL) DEPARTMENT.

U.O. NOTE No. 10392 A-2, DATED 19TH MAY 1932.

With reference to the answer given to Question No. 1056 in the Legislative Council on the 24th March 1932, the following information is laid on the table of the House:—

Legislative Council Question No. 1056.

1401 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there was a lathi charge on peaceful Congress processionists in Rajapalayam on 13th February 1932; if so, how many were injured;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that they were treated in the local hospital; if so, whether the Government will be pleased to call for a copy of the accident register relating to their injuries;

(*c*) whether after the medical treatment was over the volunteers were taken from the hospital by the Police in a bus and left four miles north of Rajapalayam in a jungle;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that when about 8 p.m. they returned and were passing the Police station, the Circle Inspector of Police ordered them to run and on failure threatened to beat them;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that one Mr. I. B. Rangaswami Raju, who could not run owing to the severe injuries, was pulled and thrashed severely by the policemen till he became unconscious; and